(b) what target has been fixed by Government for the State of Madhya Pradesh in this regard ; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to achieve the target in foodgrains production in Madhya Pradesh in view of drought conditions in the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) A target of production of 79.35 million tonnes of foodgrains in the country has been fixed by the Government for the rabi season of 1991-92.

(b) A working target of 72.25 lakh tonnes of rabi foodgrains has been finalized for Madhya Pradesh for 1991-92 at the National Conference on Agriculture for Rabi Campaign held in New Delhi in September, 1991.

(c) The above targets will be achieved through (i) efficient transfer of technlogy to the farmers through T & V media; (ii) use of seed treatment material, bio fertiliser and improved implements ; (iii) judicious use of irrigation water ; (iv) adequate and timely supply of inputs like quality seeds and fertiliser for Rabi crop ; (v) adoption of water harvesting and moisture conservation practices ; and (vi) increasing and the area under High Yielding Varieties Programme.

People engaged in Agriculture

1410. SHRI SURESH PACHOUR I : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of people engaged in agriculture has gone down in many States and Union Territories during the last decade;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that in comparison to other States, Madhya Pradesh witnessed reverse trend where the proportion of cultivators has increased during the said period;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(e) what incentives Government pro pose to give to the farmers so they do not discard cultivation of land in the MP and other parts of country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) The proportion of cultivators and agricultural labourers taken together in rural areas has gone down in many States and Union Territories in 1991 over 1981.

(b) Statement giving States and Union Territories arranged in descending order of proportion of cultivators and agricultural labourers taken together in rural areas, 1981-1991 is annexed *(See* below).

(c) and (d) The proportion of cultivators and agricultural labourers taken together in rural areas of Madhya Pradesh had increased from 87.40% in 1981 to 88.20% in 1991.

(e) Higher proportion of cultivators and agricultural labourers taken to gether in 1991 over 1981 in Madhya Pradesh indicate that agriculture in the State has attracted more people. However, the Government has been implementing various production oriented programmes with a view to increase the productivity of major crops and to keep the crop production profitable.

Statement

States and union territories arranged in descending order of proportion of Cultivators and Agricultural labouers taken together in rural areas, 1981-1991.

Rank in 1991	State or Union Territory	1991	1981
1	2	3	4
1.	Madhya Pradesh	88·20	87·40
2.	Bihar	88·05	86·66
3.	Uttar Pradesh	84·48	86·32
4.	Mizoram	83·22	84·18
5.	Rajasthan	83·14	81·49

1	2	3	4
6.	Maharashtra	83·13	83·00
7.	Nagaland.	82·40	81·52
8.	Orissa	80·94	81·92
9.	Andhra Pradesh	80·80	80·40
	INDIA£	80·51	81·04
10.	Karnataka	79·70	80·18
11.	Meghalaya	79·63	82·92
12.	Tamil Nadu	77·58	78·55
13.	Gujarat	76·78	79·96
14.	Punjab	75·63	76· 25
15.	Haryana	74·79	75·48
16.	Himachal Pradesh	74·48	76·00
17.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	74·30	75·27
18.	Manipur	73·97	76·92
19.	Arunachal Pradesh	72·77	77·61
20.	Sikkim	72·12	73·73
21.	Tripura	70·24	74·00
22.	West Bengal	70·72	73·78
23.	Pondicherry	68·01	66·26
24.	Kerala	46·06	47·77
25.	Goa	35·60	39·77
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	30·02	27·93
27.	Daman & Diu	23·56	41·84
28.	Delhi	16·08	30·25
29.	Chandigarh	8·58	18·71

£Excludes Assam and Jammu and Kashmir

SOURCE: Census of India 1991 Provisional Population Tables: Workers and their distribution—Registrar General and Census Commissioner, India.